

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in the application, the status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 1-10 are rejected under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 because the specification, while being enabling for the condition where the zoom ratio fw/ft to be satisfied, does not reasonably provide enablement for zoom ratio between 3.1 and 5.5. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as their invention.

Claims 2-9 are rejected based upon the rejected base claim 1.

The acknowledgement, in the Office Action, of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d), and that the certified copy of the priority document has been received, is noted with appreciation.

The indication, in the Office Action that the Examiner accepts the drawings filed with the application, is noted with appreciation.

Specification Amendments

As noted in the Office Action, the shortest focal length condition (fw) should always be less than or equal to the longest focal length condition (ft). Thus, the condition $3.1 \leq fw/ft \leq 5.5$ is incorrect, as shown by the four examples on pages 18-25 of the present application. This inverted ratio has therefore been corrected by the above amendments to indicate $3.1 \leq ft/fw \leq 5.5$. As this ratio is satisfied by each of the examples, these amendments do not introduce any new matter.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1 and 10 have been similarly amended to correct an error due to the inversion of the ratio to require $3.1 \leq ft/fw \leq 5.5$. Claim 3 was amended to correct a typographical error. These changes likewise do not introduce any new matter.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

The rejection of claims 1-10 under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention, is respectfully traversed based on the following.

The specification has been amended to correct an inversion in the ratio that previously required $3.1 \leq fw/ft \leq 5.5$, to now require $3.1 \leq ft/fw \leq 5.5$. The corrected specification therefore describes the subject matter in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention. The rejection under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 is thus believed to be overcome.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1-10 under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 1-10 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant(s) regard as the invention, is respectfully traversed based on the following.

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Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to correct an inversion in the ratio that previously required $3.1 \leq fw/ft \leq 5.5$, to now require $3.1 \leq ft/fw \leq 5.5$. Corrected claims 1 and 10 are therefore considered definite and to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. The rejection under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 is thus believed to be overcome.

Claims 2-9 depend from claim 1. As the rejection of claim 1 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 is believed to be overcome, the rejection claims 2-9 that depend therefrom is likewise considered to be overcome.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1-10 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant(s) regard as the invention, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Wherefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

This Amendment does not increase the number of independent claims, does not increase the total number of claims, and does not present any multiple dependency claims. Accordingly, no fee based on the number or type of claims is currently due. However, if a fee, other than the issue fee, is due, please charge this fee to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

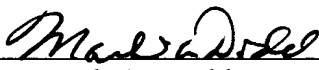
Any fee required by this document other than the issue fee, and not submitted herewith should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

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If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

Any other fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time and any other fee required by this document pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, other than the issue fee, and not submitted herewith should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 10, 2004